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Gethereksik', and so to Holburn', and from Holburn' to the water of Laure, and so descending by the water of Laure to Kesebek', between the fees of the said John de Moubray and Henry de Percy; and from Kesebeck' to the bridge of Redelay, and from Redelay to Munkstay Wal', between the fees of the said John de Moubray and the archbishop of York, and descending down the water of Yries, and so to Ulueswath'.

The said John now holds the aforesaid chaces by the metes and bounds above named, and his ancestors had and held the aforesaid chaces by the same metes and bounds from a time of which there is no memory.

CXXXVI. MARGARET,[a] DAUGHTER AND HEIRESS OF THOMAS DE MULTON OF GILSLAND, AND WIFE OF RANULPH DACRE. *Proof of age.*

[Curia Regis. No. 224, m. 72.][b]

YORK. The sheriff was ordered that as Ranulph de Acre (*sic*), who, as he asserts, has married Margaret, daughter and heiress of Thomas de Multon of Gilleslond, deceased, who held of the King in chief, says that the said Margaret is of full age, and has prayed that the lands and tenements, which are of the inheritance of the said Margaret, and in the King's custody till the full age of the same heiress, be restored to him; wherefore the King granted a day to the same Ranulph and Margaret to prove her age before him, who was born in the castle of Mulgrave in his county, and baptized in the church of the vill of Lythe, as it is stated, that is, from Easter Day for three weeks, wherever, etc.; that he cause to come before the King on the said day so many and such honest and lawful men of his bailiwick, both knights and others, by whom that proof and the truth of her said age may be the better known and inquired into; and that he should inform the King's clerk, Robert de

[a] Margaret, daughter and heiress of Thomas de Multon of Gilsland, was born at Mulgrave Castle, near Whitby, on St. Margaret's day (20 July), 1300. Her mother was probably a daughter of the Peter de Mauley III., who was over thirty in 1279 (*Yorkshire Inquisitions*, I., 194). A paternal aunt of her mother, Isabel de Mauley, married Robert de Colville of Arncliffe. The heiress was baptized in the parish church of Lythe on the Sunday following (24 July) by the parish priest, Sir William of Whitby. The godparents were Sir Geoffrey Mencovenant, knight, of Easington-in-Cleveland; Margaret, wife of Sir Richard de Thweng, knight, of Newton-under-Roseberry; and Joan de Mortayn. It appears that after her father's death, in 1313, Margaret was placed for safe custody in Warwick Castle, whence she eloped with Ranulph Dacre. It is satisfactory to find that ultimately the King pardoned Dacre for running off with this rich ward.

[b] Roll for Easter Term, 9 Edw. II. (1316).

Clyderhou, escheator beyond Trent, so that he should be there to show cause, if he had or knew of any, on the King's behalf, why the King ought not to restore the said lands and tenements to the aforesaid Ranulph and Margaret, as to one who is of full age, if she be so.

A similar writ[1] to John Walewayn, escheator this side Trent, which concludes thus:—that whereas the King had been informed that the same Margaret, whilst living in Warwick Castle, under age and in his custody, had been taken and abducted (*rapta fuit et abducta*) in contempt of the King and to his manifest hurt, the said escheator should be before the King in his proper person on the said day, to inform him about the said taking away and abduction. The said escheator sent word at that Term that he had, by the King's orders, gone to Wales in the royal army, so that he could by no means be present on the said day to inform the King; but he made a return that, by the royal command, he had placed the said Margaret in the said castle for safe custody, and that, whilst he was absent, and quite without his knowledge, she was taken away and abducted; whereupon, in pursuance of his office, he took an inquisition, by which he found that the said Ranulph de Dacre and Richard de Knolle, together with others unknown, took away and abducted the said Margaret from the castle by night.

And now the said Ranulph and Margaret come and likewise the jurors, and Robert de Clederhou (*sic*), the escheator beyond Trent, though often and solemnly called, does not come. And the sheriff made return that he had informed him by William Rotour and William Boye, etc. And the said Ranulph and Margaret pray that, since the said Robert de Cliderhou, the escheator, is sufficiently warned and does not come, that they proceed to ascertain the said Margaret's age. And on this John de Cestria, who follows for the King, prays on the King's behalf that the said Ranulph answer to the King for the said taking away and abduction of the said Margaret, before proceeding to prove her age. And the said Ranulph says that he did not take away (*rapuit*) the said Margaret, as more plainly appears in Roll 62 of this Term, where he was arraigned about the said taking away and abduction, and placed himself on a jury of his country; and

[1] This writ (fo. 62*d*) is dated at Lincoln, Feb. 20, 9th year (1315-16). The escheator, in his reply, after citing letters patent of the King, dated at Clipston, 4 Feb. in the same year, and directed to him and John de Langeleye, ordering them to inquire about the abduction of Margaret, daughter and heiress of Thomas de Multon of Giselaunde (*sic*), states that he had gone to Wales in the King's army against his enemies and rebels of those parts, and so could do nothing. Richard de Knolle escaped from the custody of the marshall by breaking prison.

because the said Robert de Clyderhou, the escheator, has been sufficiently warned and does not come, as appears above, and the said Ranulph has placed himself on a jury of his country about the said taking away and abduction that he is not guilty, and as there is no other hindrance to proceeding with safety to take the proof of the said Margaret's age, therefore let the said proof be taken.

But as regards the livery of seisin to the said Ranulph and Margaret of the lands and tenements falling to her from her inheritance, let it be entirely delayed until the said Ranulph shall have been lawfully acquitted or convicted of the said taking away and abduction, and shall have satisfied the King about the marriage, as the Court shall think fit

Gilbert de Roseles, aged 55, living (*manens*) at Neuton,[a] distant 14 leagues from Mulgreve where the heiress was born, sworn and carefully examined about her age, says the said Margaret was born at Mulgreve, which is the castle of Sir Peter Mauley (*de Malo lacu*), and says that she is of full age, and was of the age of 15 years on the feast of Saint Margaret the Virgin last past (20 July, 1315). Asked how he knows this, says a certain Isabel, his mother, died 15 days after the heiress's birth, from which time 15 years have elapsed. He says also that the said Margaret was baptized in the parish church of Lythe, which is one league distant from Mulgreve, on the Sunday next after the feast of St. Margaret (24 July, 1300), and the chaplain who baptized her was called Sir William de Whiteby, the parish chaplain. A certain Geoffrey Maucovenaunt, knight, was her godfather, and Margaret de Thweng, wife of Richard de Thwenge, knight, and Joan de Mortayn were her godmothers. At the time of the birth of the said heiress he was living with his father, William de Roseles, at Aselby,[b] two leagues distant from Mulgreve. And from this he well recollects about the birth of the heiress. Of the other circumstances he has been informed by the talk of the country (*per relatum patrie*).

Ralph *del Estre*, aged 40 and upwards, living at Jarum, 14 leagues distant from Mulgreve, agrees with the previous witness, and says he knows because at the time of her birth he was seneschal to a certain Robert de Coleville, who married Isabel, aunt (*amitam*) of the said Margaret's mother,[c] who was staying in the said castle, for which cause this witness was at that time often going to the said castle.

[a] Newton-under-Roseberry.

[b] Aislaby.

[c] This alliance explains the cause of the occurrence of the Mauley arms in Ingleby Arncliffe Church (*Yorkshire Archæol. Journal*, xvi., 136).

William de Malteby, aged 40, living at Bathelby,[a] 6 leagues distant from Mulgreve, says his sister Alice assumed the habit of a nun in the house of Basedale on the Sunday on which the heiress was baptized.

Robert de Marton, aged 40, living there,[b] 11 leagues distant from Mulgreve, says that at the time of her birth he was in service with Richard de Twenge, the husband of Margaret, the heiress's godmother, and that by his lord's command he went with the said Margaret to the said church of Lithe, where the heiress was baptized, on the Sunday after her birth for her baptism. He says also that at Martinmas after the birth of the heiress he took a bovate of land for a term of 15 years, which term expired at last Martinmas.

William *le Hunter*, aged 50, living at Daneby, 8 leagues distant from Mulgreve, says he had a son Lawrence born at the feast of St. Laurence (10 August) after the heiress's birth, who will be 16 at the feast of St. Lawrence next.

John Wyrfauk', aged 50, living at Hilderwelle,[c] 2 leagues distant from Mulgreve, says that on the day of her birth one Robert de Leysingby married his daughter Juliana at Leysingby,[d] 8 leagues distant from Mulgreve.

(Fo. 72*d*.) John, son of Walter of Ilderwelle, aged 50, living there,[c] 2 leagues distant from Mulgreve, says he had a wife, Maude by name, who bore, on the feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul (29 June) 15 years ago, a son John, who is still alive, and that she died on the same day of the birth. He had one Cecily to nurse this John till St. Margaret's Day, when the heiress was born, when men came from the castle of Mulgreve and took away the said Cecily to nurse the said Margaret.

Hugh de Lelum, aged 40, living there,[e] three leagues distant from Mulgreve, married Agnes, daughter of Peter de Herdwick, of the bishopric of Durham, on the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Mary (15 Aug.) after the said Margaret's birth.

John *le Brunte*, aged 40, living at Skelton, 6 leagues distant from Mulgreve, had a daughter Alice, who died on 1 August (*ad gulam Augusti*) after the heiress's birth.

Robert de Merske, aged 40, living at Skelton, 6 leagues distant from Mulgreve, married Alice, daughter of Hugh de Morsum, 15 years ago last Easter, and the said Margaret was born on the feast of St. Margaret next following.

[a] Battersby.
[b] Marton-in-Cleveland.
[c] Called Ilderwelle below.
[d] Lazenby, in the parish of Wilton-in-Cleveland.
[e] Leathelme, in the parish of Danby.
Now Hinderwell.

John de Eston, aged 40 and upwards, now living at Normanby, two leagues distant from the said castle, married one Isolda in the octave of St. Martin (18 Oct.) before the birth of the heiress. He was in service with Sir Geoffrey Maucovenaunt, the godfather of the heiress, and was with his lord at the feast when her mother was purified at Lithe. At that time he was living at Esyngton, 5 leagues distant from the said castle.

As regards Thomas of the Hall of Jarum, the twelfth juror, the justices did not proceed to examine him about the said Margaret's age, as he acknowledged before them that at the time of her birth he was under age.

And inasmuch as the said Geoffrey Maucovenaunt, the godfather of the said heiress, as appears above, was present in court at the time of the proof, the justices, in pursuance of their office, caused the same Geoffrey to be sworn before them, and carefully examined him about the said age. He said that the said Margaret is of full age, and was of the age of 15 years on the feast of St. Margaret last past. Being asked how he knows this, says that he was in the parish church of Lithe on the Sunday after the said feast of St. Margaret, and became godfather of the same Margaret, and for this reason he well knows and recollects. Concerning the other circumstances he agrees with the preceding witnesses.

And since the aforesaid Ranulph has elsewhere made a plea with the King about the taking away of the same Margaret, and has placed himself on a jury of his country, as appears above, let the judgment in the proof of age be adjourned until, etc. Afterwards as the King by his letters patent of his special grace pardoned,* as far as in him lies, the said Ranulph for the trespass of the taking away of the said Margaret, as more fully appears by the said letters of the lord King, enrolled on the principal plea, etc.; and by his writ, which remains amongst the receipts of the 11th year, commanded H. le Scrope that he should in no way molest or trouble the same Ranulph contrary to the tenor of the aforesaid letters, therefore let them proceed to judgment. And as the said Margaret has sufficiently proved her age before the lord King that she is of full age, that is, fourteen years and upwards, therefore let the same Ranulph and Margaret have seisin of the lands and tenements falling to the said Margaret from her inheritance, and let this record be sent to the Chancellor.

* Pardon dated at Westminster, 29 Oct., 11th year (1317). See fo. 62*d.